



Building Department

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Division:	Plans Examination	Code Interpretation	BP-CI-012
Subject:	GUARDRAILS FOR ELEVATED SPAS AND WALKING SURFACES	Effective Date:	05/01/2007
Code:	IBC 1013.1	Revised Date:	08/15/2008

A. CODE REQUIREMENT

Pursuant to the International Building Code, Section 1013.1, a guard is required near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces which are located more than 30 inches (762mm) above the floor or grade below, for the purpose of minimizing the possibility of an accidental fall from the elevated walking surface.

ICC/ANSI A117.1 requires ramp edge protection if the vertical drop off at the landing area exceeds ½ inch (13mm) within 10 inches (255mm) of the landing area.

B. INTERPRETATION

Therefore, a guard shall be required if an elevated walking surface has a vertical drop off greater than 30 inches (762mm), measured to the floor, grade or surface below, and the floor, grade or surface below is located within 10 inches (255mm) horizontally from the nearest edge of the elevated walking surface. A guard shall be required regardless of the type of lower floor, grade or surface material.

Revision History:

POLICY #	TITLE	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed
PE-CI-IBC-002	Guardrails for Elevated Spas & Walking Surfaces	May 1, 2007		
BP-CI-012	Guardrails for Elevated Spas & Walking Surfaces			August 15, 2008
BP-CI-012	Guardrails for Elevated Spas & Walking Surfaces		September 13, 2013	

Approved by:

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Concurred by:

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